Report – "Water for People Water for Life" published in 2003, a table titled "water quality indicator values in selected countries" was included in which India was shown at Sl. No. 120. However, none of these reports have specific mention that "people are forced to drink contaminated water".

(c) Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Drinking Water Supply) has taken a number of steps to enable the rural people to have access to safe drinking water in adequate quantity throughout the year on long-term basis. Rural drinking water supply is the State subject. After 73rd Amendment in the Constitution of India, rural drinking water as a subject has been put in the 11th Schedule to be transferred to Panchayati Raj Institutions. Government of India Supplements the efforts of the State Governments for providing safe drinking water in adequate quantity to the rural people of the country through the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. In 2005, the Government had launched a time-bound Bharat Nirman programme to provide safe drinking water to 55,067 uncovered habitations and 3.31 lakh slipped back habitations along with addressing chemical contamination due to arsenic, fluoride, iron, salinity and nitrate in 2.17 lakh rural habitations in the country during the period 2005-2009. In order to enable the community to check the water quality in all drinking water sources in the country, the Government had launched the National Rural Drinking Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance Programme, wherein, 5 grassroot level workers are trained in each Gram Panchayat and given field test kits to test both chemical and biological contamination by themselves. Positively tested samples are then referred to the district water testing laboratory for confirmation and also to take necessary corrective action by the concerned water supply agency.

Recharging of ground water in Delhi

451. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to recharge ground water in the capital city Delhi to improve the water table;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to provide incentives/assistance to the house-owners of Delhi who would like to go for recharge of ground water before their houses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Government of NCT of Delhi is implementing Bhagidari scheme under which technical and financial assistance is provided to Resident Welfare Association's / Registered Group Housing Societies/ Government schools / hospitals etc. to promote rain water harvesting and ground water recharge. Under this scheme financial assistance is given to the extent of 50% of total cost of the rain water harvesting structures or Rs. One lakh, whichever is less.